

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 014972

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ALATHERTON, JR./HLK

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

P - MR. HABIB

S/S - MR. SHANKLE

S/CL - MR. TARNOFF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE

SECRET STATE 014972

EXDIS FOR CHARGE FROM CYRUS VANCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SECRETARY CYRUS VANCE)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY VANCE'S TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST

1. PRESIDENT CARTER HAS ASKED ME TO VISIT THE MIDDLE EAST AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME. YOU SHOULD THEREFORE CONVEY FOLLOWING ORAL MESSAGE FROM ME TO FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON.

2. BEGIN MESSAGE:

AS I HAVE ALREADY DISCUSSED WITH AMBASSADOR DINITZ, THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED ME TO VISIT CERTAIN KEY MIDDLE EAST CAPITALS SO THAT WE MAY HAVE THE BENEFIT OF THE VIEWS OF THE LEADERS IN THE AREA, AND IN PARTICULAR OF OUR FRIENDS IN ISRAEL, AS WE DEVELOP OUR OWN THINKING ABOUT HOW PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE CAN BEST BE ACHIEVED. IF IT IS

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CONVENIENT TO PRIME MINISTER RABIN AND YOU, I WOULD PROPOSE TO ARRIVE IN ISRAEL THE EVENING OF TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 FROM WASHINGTON AND DEPART ABOUT 9:00A.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17 FOR CAIRO. I ALSO PLAN TO VISIT JORDAN, SYRIA AND SAUDI ARABIA BEFORE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON. I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING PRIME MINISTER RABIN, YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES, AND TO CONVEYING THE HOPES OF PRESIDENT CARTER

THAT THIS WILL BE A FRUITFUL YEAR FOR THE PEACEMAKING PROCESS

IN THE MIDDLE EAST. I WOULD APPRECIATE HEARING WHETHER
THE FOREGOING TIME WOULD BE CONVENIENT FOR MY VISIT TO
YOUR COUNTRY. END MESSAGE.

3. PLEASE INFORM ALLON THAT, ASSUMING ALL CONCERNED
AGREE TO MY PROPOSED VISIT AND TO ITS TIMING, MY TRIP
WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY THE WHITE HOUSE AT ABOUT NOON,
WASHINGTON TIME, MONDAY, JANUARY 24.

HABIB

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NNN

Message Attributes

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